DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 349 546 CS 011 039

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TITLE Research Skills Projects. Unit I. Learning On Your Own! Individual, Group, and Classroom Research Projects for Gifted and Motivated Students.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-87628-508-6
PUB DATE 87
NOTE 145p.; For unit 2, see CS 213 533.
AVAILABLE FROM Center for Applied Research in Education, Book Distribution Center, Route 59 at Brookhill Dr., West Nyack, NY 10994 ($21.95 plus $5.96 postage/handling and state sales tax).
PUB TYPE Guides - Classroom Use - Teaching Guides (For Teacher) (052) -- Guides - Classroom Use - Instructional Materials (For Learner) (051)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Gifted; *Independent Study; Intermediate Grades; Junior High Schools; Lesson Plans; Letters (Correspondence); Library Skills; *Research Skills; *Student Projects; *Student Research; Teacher Developed Materials; Thinking Skills; United States History; Units of Study; World History

ABSTRACT

Created for use with motivated learners (meaning all those who enjoy the adventure and challenge of learning) as well as for gifted and talented upper elementary and junior high children, the 15 student research projects in this book were designed to teach children in these grades how to become independent learners; hence they emphasize the use of basic research skills such as data collection, interviewing, use of the library, making note cards, outlining the others. The projects lend themselves to a variety of applications, such as basic skill activities, full-class units or courses, small-group projects, independent study, and curriculum development. Every project is divided into three sections: teacher preview; lesson plan and notes; and instructional materials. The most basic skill-oriented projects in the book (Notecard-Bibliography, Information Search, Letter Writing, Using the Telephone, and Library projects) are geared to full-class use. The book next presents four intermediate research projects (American History, Native Americans, World History, and the World of Science and Inventions). The rest of the projects in the book (Openings, Kids Teaching Kids, That Was the Year, and Independent Project) are advanced and flexible enough to be used with a few individuals, several small groups, or an entire class. The book also includes numerous reproducible student handouts and checklists, and an independent learning skills chart. (RS)

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